SUBJECT No. 44.

Construction of quarters for officials at taluk head-quarters.

Messrs. H. Krishna Murty and Maralu Siddappa, Arsikere Taluk, D. Nanje Gowda and A. Thimmappaiya, Manjarabad Taluk.

Mr. H. Krishnamurthy.—Early measures may be taken to provide suitable accommodation in all taluk head-quarters for the taluk officials and a reasonable rent recovered from them. It is very necessary in a place like Arsikere, where owing to the enormous increase of *mundies*, officials find it hard to get rented houses though they are willing to pay half the amount of their pay. The number of *mundies* in Arsikere has gone up from 4 or 5 to 70 or 80. So also in Saklespur, much difficulty is experienced by officials and four to five families have to occupy one small house. Government may therefore take up the construction and letting out of houses for officials, some of whom have now to reside in Choultries etc.

Dewan—Whenever funds are available, this is being done and more cannot be expected. If there is real grievance in any particular localities, local gentlemen may build houses for which they are sure to get a satisfactory return.

SUBJECT No. 45.

Retention of newly created Sub-Division Offices.

Mr. Kanchi Seethappa, Chintamani Municipality and Mr. Rame Gowda, Sidlaghatta Taluk.

Mr. Kanchi Seethappa.—Newly opened Sub-Division Offices should be kept some time longer.

Chief Secretary to Government.—You want the Sub-Division Office at Chintamani to be continued?

Dewan.—The Chintamani Sub-Division will be retained till the scheme for the separation of Judicial and Executive functions of Revenue Officers is introduced into the Kolar District.

REVENUE—(EXCISE.)

(Nos. 46 to 48.)

SUBJECT No. 46.

Excise Revenue in Municipalities.

Messrs. (1) B. Seetaramaiya, Chiknayakanhalli Municipality and (2) Madappa, Setwaji Rao, Settappa Siddappa and Dharmaprakasa D. Banumiah, Mysore City Municipality and (3) B Srinivasiengar and R. Subba Rao, Anekal Taluk and Gubbiah, Anekal Municipality and Raja Narasiah, Thyamagondlu Municipality.

Mr. B. Srinivasiengar.—The Local Self-Government scheme has been introduced and the question for consideration is how the Municipalities can increase their revenue. Octroi cannot be increased because prices are high. House tax is already high. For improvements, revenue is necessary. How is it to be increased? Some portion of the receipts from Toddy and arrack shops should be given to Municipalities.

Second Member of Council.—In no administration can *abkari* revenue be granted to Municipalities. The Regulation provides for the increase of taxes at the discretion of the Municipality. In the cities of Bangalore and Mysore, registration and surcharge fees on arrack are granted to municipalities. The question of granting these fees to Town Municipalities is under the consideration of Government.

Mr. Anantaiya.—Ganja, opium, &c., revenue is taken by Government. For the Local Self-Government scheme to be more effective, some revenue should be allotted to Municipalities.

Second Member of Council.—1 or the Municipalities to ask for help is one thing. For them to ask for *abkari* revenue is another thing. It is a recognised principle of administration that the *abkari* revenue is a State revenue.

SUBJECT No. 47.

Fixing the selling price of toddy, &c.

Messrs. V. Shama Iyengar and N. Puttanna, T. Narsipur Taluk; H. Varadaiya, T. Narsipur Municipality and P. R. Lakshminaranappa, Mugur Municipality.

Mr. Shama Iyengar.—Persons obtaining excise contracts by highest bids began to sell toddy at a heavy rate. It has been found difficult by the public to meet such heavy cost. Government may fix rates at which the toddy should be sold before the excise sale is made. When price is high and people do not buy, factions are created in the place. The sale price of toddy should be fixed.

Second Member of Council.—Cannot be done. The minimum rate is now fixed. If any difficulty is experienced anywhere, the Excise Commissioner may be approached.

SUBJECT No. 48.

Abolishing the practice of obtaining certificates on application for license to tap trees.

Messrs. B. Kesavaiya and T. B. Malle Gowda, Chikmagalur Taluk.

Mr. B. Kesavaiya.—The practice of obtaining certificates from the Excise Inspector or Assistant Inspector on the *darkhast* for license to tap date trees entails unnecessary hardship to the applicants. This practice should be discontinued. It does not cause any inconvenience to Government.

Second Member of Council.—Cannot be done. The certificate is required to identify trees applied for by the licensee. Otherwise, it will be difficult for the Excise Staff to know the place where the trees applied for are situated. To detect cases of illicit tapping, it is essential that all details of trees which have been licensed for tapping should be known to the Excise Staff. The certificate provides for these contingencies.

REVENUE—(FOREST.)

(Nos. 49 to 59.)

SUBJECT No. 49.

Subordination of the District Forest Officer to the Deputy Commissioner.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurti Rao, Magadi Taluk.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurti Rao.—The present arrangement of leaving District Forests to the Forest Department is not conducive to efficiency. The District Forest Officer may be made subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner.

Dewan.—A Committee has been appointed to investigate the question and submit definite proposals.

SUBJECT No. 50.

Grant of concessions in cases of accidental fires.

Messrs. Nadig Bhaskar Rao, Nadig Lakshmana Rao and Nadig Seetharamappa, Sorab Taluk.

Mr. Seetharamappa.—Amildars may be empowered to sanction timber up to a limit of Rs. 25 instead of Rs. 10 as at present in cases of accidental fire to houses of raiyats.

Dewan.—Increased powers have been given to the Amildar to give timber up to a limit of Rs. 25 in value.